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Continuous Improvement

The following are changes noted post-printing of the August 2005 IMPACT curriculum:

- **Module 1**
 - Pg. 1-14 Change “Materials: Prepared Flip Chart (See pg. 1-19)” to “(See Page 1-16).”
- **Module 2**
 - Pg. 2-13 Optional Additional Locations Cards: Smith Home, Jones Home, Adoptive Home, Bar
- **Module 3**
 - Pg. 3-7 1st Paragraph , last sentence: add “court” before “case review”, delete “the primary parent has made toward reunification”, replace with “of the relative placement. The sentence should now read: *With the relative supplement, it is required that they have a court case review every three years to assess the progress of the relative placement.*
 - Pg.3-7 3rd “State”: Delete the last sentence (“It comes after adoption because....with their parents.”)
 - Pg 3-16 handout What Should Happen? (Online handout reflects change) Delete the second example (Nicholas) and replace with the following:
 - Jada Child’s is a seventeen-year-old senior planning to attend college out of the area. She and her five-year-old daughter, Destiny, are in foster care. Both reside in the Jones foster home. Jada’s permanency goal is emancipation. Jada demonstrates good parenting skills and expresses a desire to care for Destiny independently after college. The Jones’ are financially stable and interested in continuing to care for Destiny. (Answer on Page 3-15: Delete “Nicholas (Guardianship)” and replace with “Destiny (Guardianship)”).
 - Module 3 Leader’s Note: This information is provided to assist you in discussing permanency options:

Reunification with the parent is selected as the preferred permanency plan when the child requires temporary foster care and time-limited reunification services (generally provided no longer than 12 to 15 months) will make it possible for the child to return safely to the home.

Adoption is selected as the permanency plan when return to parents or permanent placement with relatives is not possible or in the child’s best interest. To expedite permanency, adoption may be identified as a concurrent permanency plan at the same time that reunification is the plan.

Guardianship is selected as the permanency plan for a child (1) who is unlikely to return home and (2) for whom termination is not in his/her best interest or adoption is impractical

or inappropriate. To serve as a guardian, there is an interested, responsible adult willing to assume care of the child.

Permanent placement with a fit and willing relative is selected as the permanency plan when (1) the court has ordered non-reunification; (2) the other plans for adoption and guardianship have been considered, but ruled out for justifiable reasons, and (3) there is a suitable relative who has indicated a willingness to have the child placed or remain in the home on a permanent basis. The relative's home must be evaluated and approved to ensure the child's safety and well-being.

Another planned permanent living arrangement is selected whenever (1) the court has ordered non-reunification; (2) DFCS has determined that the other permanency options (adoption, guardianship or placement with a fit and willing relative) would not be in the best interest of the child; and (3) there is a compelling reason documented in the Case Plan for its selection.

Long-term foster care by agreement is one type of "planned permanent living arrangement" when the child is unlikely to return home, adoption is not feasible and there are present caregivers available and willing to provide a home for the child as long as foster care is needed. In most instances, a child and the substitute caregiver sign an informal, non-legal agreement indicating the intention for the placement to last until the child no longer needs foster care placement. Whenever possible, the parent also signs. The county department signs as the legal custodian. (See Appendix D for sample wording for the long-term foster care agreement.)

Emancipation is selected as "another planned permanent living arrangement" when placement with the parent or relative is not possible, and without the prospects of a consistent adoptive or foster family, continued foster care arrangements are needed until the child reaches age 18.

For additional foundation for facilitating Module 3, please review Social Services Policy 1006 which can be accessed at <http://www.odis.dhr.state.ga.us>.

- **Module 4**
 - Pg. 4-3 second "State": Change 1014:49 to 1014.30.
 - Pg. 4-7 Team Development handout is located on pg. 4-24 not pg. 4-25.
 - Resource Parent Challenges to Partnering handout is included in the Module 4 handouts on the website but was not printed in the curriculum.
- **Module 5**
 - Pg-5-25 is intentionally blank; however, the number "5-26" appears twice.
- **Module 10**
 - Pg. 10-5 in the ODD definition change "abbey" to "obey."
- **Module 12**
 - Pg. 12-12 4th "Ask": change sleeping arrangements to privacy.
 - Pg. 12-19 third "State", last sentence: Delete the last sentence.
 - Pg. 12-19 last "State": delete "ways".
 - Pg. 12-29 2nd "State": Insert the following before the transition statement ("Now, let's stand up..."): Share the information that you have learned with your family, and discuss how it may impact them as whole and as individual members. Take some time to review your motivation for becoming a resource parent. Think about how your motivation fits with the needs of the children in care.